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DOUBLE VISION...

RAIDERS NEARLY PULL OFF COMEBACK I N GIRLS' SOFTBALL

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PHOTO BY STAN MADDUX

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SCHOLASTICS

School board approves baseball field proposal

BY FRANCESCA SAGALA

Members of the New Buffalo Area Schools Board of Education approved a baseball field proposal at a special meeting Monday, May 19.

At the last meeting, James Beever, vice president of special projects for GeoSurfaces, which is a TenCate company, said that he's been working with Superintendent Adam Bowen and other board members on doing a design build for the school district-owned baseball field and city-owned softball field.

Athletic Director Matt Johnson said he'd heard positive results from McHenry University, San Francisco University and Centralia High School, which had TenCate to renovate their fields.

The installation with TenCate was "fantastic," he said, with the company meeting all the deadlines despite any holdups and communication being great.

Beever had proposed a new type of turf system that has been developed called Pivot. Johnson said that all three schools said this new system is "as close as being grass as they can get without being on real turf.

He added not much difference had been noticed while playing on the Pivot field versus when athletes would go and play on a "regular, grass one."

The rate of injuries was, if anything, a "little less" than on previous surfaces, Johnson said.

Johnson said that the only issue the two colleges had was "where the pitchers plant off the pitcher's mound, they had to have the company come out and do repairs to that."

"They said metal cleats are metal cleats and, when you get kids throwing mid 80s and mid 90s on a regular basis at the collegiate level, you're going to get a lot more wear and tear," he said, adding that that's where the company's 12-year warranty comes in.

Bowen said Pivot is "probably the most innovative type of material out there."

He added that, when one adds up both fields, the project adds up to almost $2 million. He reminded board members that the softball field will be taken care of through a private donation.

The baseball field will be an artificial turf infield, with tall nets to ensure foul balls don't go into the parking lot area, two new bullpens and some concrete areas. Students in the Building Trades class will construct the dugouts next year.

"We are planning for future expansions in case we ever want to put in lights for the field or have concession stands – so all those future additions are being put in now," Bowen said.

Following a public hearing, board members adopted the 2025-2026 fiscal budget.

Business manager Pano Arvanitis said that in 2024, district voters renewed a 19.875 mills property tax for a period of six years. In 2025, 18 mills will be levied on non-homestead and non-qualified agricultural property to be used for operating purposes, with estimate revenue generated by it $17,628,612 or 86 percent of district's revenues.

With regards to the General Fund, local revenues are $18, 719,112, state revenues are $1,641,844 and other revenues, which include grants and some private donations, are $58,000 for a total of $20,418,956, with Arvanitis saying that this is a little lower than this current year's estimated revenues.

With regards to expenditures, total appropriated for this coming school year are $21,324,279, which Arvanitis said is a deficit of about $900,000.

Board members certified the 2025 tax levy to the City of New Buffalo, New Buffalo Township, and Chikaming Township.

Board members approved the resolutions complying with the Publicly Funded Health Insurance Contributions Act (152) for the medical benefit plan coverage beginning July 1, which includes district employees paying 20% and New Buffalo Area Schools paying 80% of the premium, in lieu of capping the premium.

A resolution for the Berrien RESA Board of Education Election that designates Vanessa Thun, Board Secretary, as the Board's representative to serve on the 2025 electoral body, and Denise Churchill, Board Vice President, as the alternate to the RESA 2025 electoral body. Further, the board directs its representative to cast a vote for Anne (Nancy) Morrisett-Kierman and Daniel Buckenmyer for six-year terms on the first ballot taken on June 2 was adopted.

Board members approved the resignation, for retirement purposes, of David Kelly, curriculum director, effective July 1.

Board members approved the administrative contract for Melissa Lijewski.

A proposal from Midwest Biological Survey LLC for the NBAS Nature Study area and the Turtle Creek Preserve, including the addition of NBAS parcel No. 240702, at a cost of $13,500, was approved, with the expense being covered by a received grant.

Most nights, Miami's Fountainebleau is the most iconic lobby lounge on earth. — *Dino N. Fatouros*

Local Government Meetings

New Buffalo Times

Democracy Requires Transparency

CITY OF NEW BUFFALO
VANCE PRICE, MAYOR
CITY COUNCIL
MARK ROBERTSON, ROGER LIJEWSKI, KAREN GEAR, RICH KNOLL, VANCE PRICE
City Council meets on the 3rd Monday of each month at 6:30PM
CITY OF NEW BUFFALO PLANNING COMMISSION MEETINGS
Meets on the 1st Tuesday of each month at 5:30PM
NEW BUFFALO TOWNSHIP BOARD
HOWARD MALES, MICHELLE HEIT, MICHELLE HANNON, PATTY IAZZETTO, BARBARA ANDERSON
Board meets on the 3rd Monday of each month at 4PM
NEW BUFFALO TOWNSHIP PLANNING COMMISSION
Meets on the 1st Tuesday of each month at 6:30PM
SHERIFF BERRIEN COUNTY
Sheriff, Chuck Heit
Undersheriff, Greg Sanders
NEW BUFFALO AREA RECREATIONAL AUTHORITY
Meets at 10AM on the 2nd Wednesday of every other month (odd) at New Buffalo Township Hall, 17425 Red Arrow Highway New Buffalo
NEW BUFFALO AREA SCHOOLS BOARD
LISA WERNER, JOHN HASKINS, DENISE CHURCHILL, JENNIFER SUMMERS, VANESSA THUN, STEPHEN DONNELLY, GREG VOSBERG
CHIKAMING TOWNSHIP
CHIKAMING TOWNSHIP BOARD
DAVID BUNTE, PAULA DUDIAK, LIZ RETTIG, RICHARD SULLIVAN, ARTHUR ANDERSON
Chikaming Board meets on the 2nd Thursday of each month at 6:30PM
CHIKAMING TOWNSHIP PLANNING COMMISSION
Meets on the 1st Wednesday of each month at 6:30PM
THREE OAKS
THREE OAKS TOWNSHIP BOARD
Meets on the 2nd Monday of each month at 7PM
VILLAGE OF THREE OAKS BOARD
Meets on the 2nd Wednesday of each month at 7PM
GRAND BEACH
Meets on the 3rd Wednesday at 5PM EST
KIMBERLY WOLNIK, CLERK-TREASURER
HARRY WALDER, JACK GRACE, ED SEBASTIAN, PETER DOERR, EDWARD BRANDES
MICHIANA
VILLAGE OF MICHIANA COUNCIL
Meets on the 2nd Friday of each month at 1PM

Council OKs paid parking in downtown

BY THERESE DONNELLY

The New Buffalo City Council voted to pass a resolution to establish paid parking in the downtown and approved purchasing related equipment from Total Parking Solutions for $50,000, including installation and programing of equipment, at their Monday, May 19, meeting.

Under the new parking policy, the resident beach pass will also allow downtown parking.

Parking in the downtown, especially during summer months, has been a challenge and the city has looked at ways to remedy it. The city previously enforced the three-hour limit by marking tires to monitor movement, but the Sixth Circuit Court ruled that marking tires violated the Fourth Amendment, which protects against unwarranted searches.

Prior to the council's vote on a proposal to begin paid parking in the downtown, the council heard from members of the public who voiced concerns.

Diane Pyshos said she had initially been in favor of the paid parking, but after researching other cities with paid parking, she feels there's not enough time to initiate the plan this summer.

Joe Lindsey said he understood there were challenges to enforce the current parking limits, but he feels there are ways to enforce them before trying paid parking.

Mayor Vance Price said the city is looking to ease parking issues in the downtown and beach, as well as generate revenue. He noted the city has two major projects planned.

Price also noted parking along both sides of the streets off Whittaker can make it difficult for emergency vehicles to pass through.

No one asked to speak during the public hearings for the vacating of the rights-of-way for South Kenzie, South Griffith, Rose and Ontario streets, from East Clay Street to the railroad right-of-way. City Manager Darwin Watson explained to the council that New Buffalo Area Schools has requested these platted streets be vacated in order to combine adjacent school-owned properties.

The council approved the four requests.

Following the vote to vacate streets, the council also had public hearings for the 2025-2026 fiscal year truth in taxation, and budget.

While no one in the audience asked to speak on either item, Watson explained a hearing was required for the truth in taxation, allowing the city to set upcoming millage rates.

Watson reported there will be a projected deficit as the city begins work on the broadside dock and the pedestrian bridge, but the city had built up a fund balance in previous years to help pay this.

The council approved the upcoming annual budget, as well as the 2025-2026 millage rates.

On the advice of Watson, the council approved an investment policy to set guidelines on how the city will invest surplus funds. Watson said the policy was necessary because of changes in policies and laws since the last policy was created in 1998.

Approving the policy allowed the council to make the Michigan Cooperative Liquid Assets Securities System (CLASS) as an option for investments. CLASS gives legal entities a safe investment option.

In a separate motion, the council approved the development of a comprehensive asset management plan with Abonmarche Engineers for $150,000.

Watson explained municipalities use these plans to maintain and replace infrastructure and other assts and help residents see the methods used to prioritize repairs and maintenance of the infrastructure. Several departments will be impacted by the plan, and Watson said all will contribute to the cost.

At their April meeting, the council tabled a proposed amendment to the sidewalk ordinance that would require homeowners to pay to install sidewalks if they renovated or added more than 30 percent of their residence. They untabled the matter at their May meeting.

Councilmember Rich Knoll said he was in favor of sidewalks but felt the proposal would put the onus on the property owners, while he felt the city should look into grants and other payment methods.

The council voted to reject the amendment.

They also untabled a resolution to support a proposed Joint Economic Development Collaboration with other communities to encourage economic growth in the region.

The council supported the resolution, including contributing up to $16,000 from Pokagon Fund money annually for two years towards the collaborative effort.

The council approved a hawking and peddling permit for Zo's Mini Donuts to sell at 1 W. Buffalo Street from 8 to 11 a.m. Monday through Sunday and 7 to 10 p.m. Friday through Sunday from June 20 to Aug. 10.

Kilometers for Kiki 5k will take place Sept. 13, with the council's approval. The fundraiser was started by the Kelly family in honor of Katelyn Kelly to raise awareness of early detection of brain aneurysms.

The fear of death follows from the fear of life. A man who lives fully is prepared to die at any time. *— Mark Twain*

The council also approved special event applications from New Buffalo Harvest Fest on Oct. 11 in the downtown and Tour de La Porte on Aug. 24 at Oselka Park.

Watson told the council one of the New Buffalo Police Department's vehicles has a failing transmission and he recommended approving the purchase of a new vehicle at a maximum of $50,000. He explained approving the purchase now will allow the city to avoid anticipated rising costs in the near future.

The council approved the vehicle, as well as new police radios to replace equipment that has exceeded its usable life.

Only one company responded to the city's request for quotes on an asphalt recycler. The council approved the purchase from Sealmaster in the amount of $49,296.45. Watson said the machine heats loose asphalt, allowing it to be reused.

Arnt Asphalt will reseal and stripe the city boat launch for $68,275. Watson said it has been several years since resealing had been done.

Members of the Mr. and Miss New Buffalo 2025 court attended the council meeting to thank the city for an escort at the Blossomtime parade and present the council with a signed photograph of the Court.

Two property owners asked the council to consider making exceptions to the short-term rental restrictions for their properties. Kate Frankel told the council she had not been aware of the short-term rental ordinance until she recently received a letter informing her that she was out of compliance. She said she had received an inspection as part of the licensing process in 2019 but never heard anything more from the city.

Joyce Lantz said she had believed short-term rentals were allowed at an owner-occupied home, and she hoped to reduce her costs by renting her home while she is temporarily away for work.

Prior to adjournment, Price said the council would schedule a manager's evaluation for Watson. He said such this is generally done earlier in the year, but the council had added two new members, and they decided to give both times to work with Watson.

BOY ROBBED OF MONEY AT GUNPOINT

Two juveniles will face their criminal allegations as adults for the robbery of a teenage boy at gunpoint in La Porte.

Ella Smith and Evanthn Huffman are charged in La Porte Circuit Court with Level 3 felony armed robbery and Class A misdemeanor resisting law enforcement.

Both suspects, ages 17 and 16, are from La Porte.

According to court documents, La Porte Police about 6 p.m. on Saturday, May 17 were called to the 500 block of L St. about an armed robbery.

A 15-year-old boy told investigators he was approached by Smith and Huffman along with a third juvenile, police said.

It's alleged pulled out a loaded 9 millimeter handgun and pointed it at the face of the victim then demanded his money while Huffman pressured her to do it.

Police said the boy handed her the $220 he had in his pocket and the suspects fled on foot toward K St.

The boy, who knew at least two of the juveniles, ran home to call the police.

According to court documents, the suspects were located and detained within several minutes after the hold up.

La Porte County Prosecutor Sean Fagan said juveniles of a certain age are allowed under state law to be charged as adults depending on the crimes they allegedly committed.

"They have to be a certain level of seriousness," he said.

Smith and Huffman could face anywhere from a 3 to 16 sentence on the felony count and up to one year in jail on the misdemeanor offense. — STAN MADDUX

To Your Health

COLUMN BY KAREN EDWARDS ND

HEALTHY BEAUTY & HYGIENE PRODUCTS

There are such an array of products and brands on the market today geared towards our beauty and hygiene. With so many choices making amazing claims, how do you know which ones to choose?

I can tell you which ones NOT to choose. Read the ingredients. It is very discouraging the long list of chemical ingredients that are put into these products. It is no wonder there are so many hormone and metabolic issues.

So many people today are very concerned what foods they put into their bodies. We should be as equally concerned as what we put ON our bodies.

What you put ON your skin, absorbs INTO your skin. The skin is a direct avenue into your blood stream and your organs. If you are slathering your skin regularly with toxic chemicals, it is absolutely getting into your cells. These toxins can be a reason for many health conditions including: hormone disruptors and reproductive issues, nervous system influencers, allergens, skin irritators, headaches, dizziness, developmental problems and so much more. They can even increase your risk of cancer.

"IF YOU CAN'T EAT IT, DON'T PUT IT ON YOUR SKIN"

This is what I teach. Beauty products should not poison us. We should be able to use them without fear. You should not have to have a chemistry degree to know what ingredients are safe. If you don't recognize them, they are probably NOT safe. If you are unsure of a products ingredient, research it and find out what it is.

Because so many people are concerned what goes into their bodies today, many manufactures realize this.

You are now able to manufacture high quality simple ingredient products on the market. Problem is, they are very expensive. Yep, to get less ingredients, we have to pay more. But, because natural ingredient products do not contain preservatives, their shelf life is much shorter. So, why not just purchase the raw ingredients and make some of your own? It is easy, and it is fun.

Start simple. Want a face and body moisturizer? Use raw unrefined cold pressed coconut or olive oil. A little goes a long way. Coconut oil has an SPF of about 20, so it is also good as a natural sunscreen for short bouts in the sun. (Sunscreen itself has a plethora of chemicals added to them.)

Shea, Coco and Mango butters are amazing one ingredient moisturizers and skin softeners. Use all over your face and body. You only need a small amount.

I will do an entire article on deodorants and antiperspirants, but a bit of coconut oil mixed with some bentonite clay and some lavender Essential oil has you good to go!

For hair and body cleansers, a simple castile soap works for both. A bit of Apple Cider vinegar in some water makes a great rinse and good for hair growth.

There are many natural handmade beauty books you can get. Check the library first. A couple good ones are 'Handmade beauty' by Juliette Coggin and Rosemary Gladstar's 'Herbs for natural beauty'.

Karen Edwards is a board-Certified Dr. of Naturopathy, Master Herbalist, Vegan and Raw food Chef. She is owner of Holistic Alternatives in New Buffalo and La Porte for over 25 years.

Village council approves site plan for former elementary school

BY THERESE DONNELLY

Plans for development at the former Three Oaks Elementary School building at 100 Oak Street have advanced.

The Planning Commission reviewed a site plan of proposed apartments at the site and recommended the Three Oaks Village Council approve the plan with a revision.

At the May 14 council meeting, Lois Jones, council liaison to the Planning Commission, said the plan was "the best site plan ever submitted" and the commission approved the plan, but made a suggestion the council require a sidewalk on the south end of the property, along Ash Street.

Developer Robert Buono objected to the suggestion, explaining to the council he had agreed to three other recommendations from the Commission, but adding sidewalks would cost between $48,000 and $60,000 and the sidewalk would be on an easement for AEP and MDOT.

Village Manager Dan Faulkner said he was a proponent of sidewalks in general, but did not feel it was appropriate to require them for this project.

The council approved the site plan with no requirement for sidewalks.

The planned development will turn the former school into a 17-unit apartment building. Jones said the plans preserve much of the building's exterior, while improving the interior.

Buono has also purchased the former Chikaming Elementary School building with similar plans to develop apartments.

In March, the Public Service Committee approved up to $50,000 towards Surf Internet's efforts to survey village sewer lines via CCTV before installing fiber optic lines for internet service. At the council meeting, project manager Andrew Rudd said further research by Wightman and Associates determined the planned survey would not collect data useful to mitigating potential problems ahead of construction. Instead, he said, the engineering firm recommended securing a $25,000 bond from the company, refundable after the work is complete, if no damage is done. Rudd said the company will also be responsible for any damages in excess of the bond.

The council agreed to the recommendation of a bond requirement.

Summer sports will continue to use the village park. The council was initially presented with a proposed seven-year lease for the use of Watkins Park fields and facilities. However, Faulkner told the council this duration was not typical for a municipality. He instead recommended a five-year lease with an option for a two or three-year extension.

Faulkner said he was "totally impressed with" Three Oaks Sports and the non-profit kept the fields and pavilion clean and well-maintained.

The council approved a five-year lease.

The council also approved authorizing Faulkner to sign and file paperwork with the register of deeds to establish an easement agreement for the lift station at Three Oaks Woods Way in the southeast portion of the village.

The Village has placed patios in front of participating businesses on North Elm Street. Faulkner told the council the Driehart Winery at 6 E Linden had requested a patio. Faulkner said he was concerned that placing a patio in the proposed location would pose a tripping hazard due to the slope of adjacent land.

Owner Anne Hart said she felt it would be unfair of the village to allow some businesses to have a patio, but not another.

After discussion, the council approved the patio request on the conditions that Hart install safety measures and provide prove of required insurance.

B & Z Construction has submitted payment requests for the first two portions of the sidewalk project. Jones noted the requests include work that has not yet been completed. Faulkner said if the council approved the requests, he would not submit the payments until work is done.

The council approved the two requests-one for $71,825 and one for $16,200.

As part of the improvement work at the village wastewater treatment ponds, the council approved payment to Oselka Construction for a total of $513,831.22 and a change order to alter the gradings at ponds 1 and 2. Rudd said the change order did not add to the project costs, and work is ahead of schedule.

Communities in Harbor Country have discussed establishing a collective economic development, sharing the costs for a professional firm. The Three Oaks Council approved a commitment of up to $31,525 total towards this.

Faulkner said the City of New Buffalo and Three Oaks Township had tabled the resolution pending further information, and New Buffalo Township and Chikaming Township passed the resolution on the condition all five municipalities participate.

The council also tabled the matter, with councilmember Becky Thomas asking for assurance the Harbor Country Chamber of Commerce would not be negatively impacted by the new entity.

The Village has been updating its short-term rental policies. Faulkner presented the council with a draft that would allow an open enrollment whenever the number of short-term rental permits in the village drops below the cap of ten percent of the properties in R1 zoning.

When creating the short-term rental policy, the Village accepted all applicants, then set a cap with the policy of not approving any further applications while the number of permits is above this number.

Councilmembers expressed concerns that accepting all applicants in a time period would cause issues. Faulkner said the village could go years without dropping below the cap and creating and maintaining a waitlist would require the administrative staff to update and maintain a growing list.

The council took no action on the policy.

The Parks and Recreation Board is ready to place port a potty at Watkins Park. Councilmember Mike Springer said he liked the addition but felt it should not be placed so visibly at the park entrance. The council noted there needed to be accessibility for cleaning and replacement. The council approved the port a potty, with final location approved by Faulkner.

The Parks Board also has plans to add lights to the Dewey Cannon Park gazebo. Springer said there are already electric lines in the location, and costs will be minimal.

Village President Steve Graziano said seven people applied for the two open spots on the Downtown Development Authority. He said they were all "great candidates," and recommended Colleen Froehlich and Caroline Drier for the seats. The council approved both appointments.

The council also approved a motion to extend the village noise ordinance for Flag Day Weekend. Graziano directed Faulkner to draft a resolution that would allow the village manager to approve a set of provisions made every year for Flag Day.

The council also confirmed the fireworks show is still scheduled. Councilmember John Kramer will serve as grand marshal at this year's parade.

The United States Post Office will issue its 2025 flag-themed stamp at a first day of sale ceremony in Three Oaks during Flag Day Weekend.

In committee reports, Springer said the Parks and Rec Committee is planning its annual walkthrough of the parks to identify any work that needs to be done. He said Timber Town in Watkins Park is in need of repairs, and the pickleball club is writing a DNR grant application to add courts to Watkins Park.

The council agreed a clean-up will take place at Forest Lawn Cemetery before Memorial Day observances.

Prior to adjourning, Faulkner announced the most recent water samples had come back from the state with acceptable results.

Township board fields more marijuana dispensary concerns

BY FRANCESCA SAGALA

Concerns continued to flood New Buffalo Township Hall with regards to marijuana dispensaries at the township board's Monday, May 19, meeting.

Kelly Lowell, who lives in Chicago but recently bought a home on White Pine Drive in New Buffalo, said that she drives past multiple dispensaries down Wilson Road to get downtown with her three children and that she doesn't want her children to be exposed to that "way of life."

"When my friends come and see all these dispensaries going up it just taints the picture of this area and it's really unfortunate because it has a lot to offer," she said.

Chris Shanahan of Grand Beach said that he would "like us be able to manage" the blinking lights, trees lit up in front of the property and other signage.

"If anything, if we can just manage that attention to be less in your face - clearly, we need to do something about all the craziness and how they're currently marketing their establishments," he said.

Robert Kemper, managing director and president of The Marina Grand Resort, said that the "every dollar" that the township is capturing from the dispensaries should go toward enforcement.

He said that there have been "driving through our town parking at the beach," adding that, in 25 years, his business has never had a digital mobile sign at the beach and has been successful.

"I think it should be enforced on all businesses - we play by the rules, they should play by the rules," he said.

Collette Kemper spoke about having a town hall to voice concerns. One resident asked about changing the meeting time from 4 p.m. to 6:30 p.m. so that more can attend.

Kim Landess said that "people holding signs up" is distracting for drivers and the money being brought in should go toward education.

Kevin Brojek, general manager of King of Budz in New Buffalo, said that they don't have "people outside, I don't have people with signs, no joints outside."

He added that, for those who have questions about his business, that he's a "complete open door."

"Thank you guys for voicing your concerns as well, too, because obviously that helps us as a business be able to clean up things on our end of it very quicky so we can ensure we stay out of your guys' hair and keep building and being able to support you internally within the city, the township as well as the businesses and surrounding people that are within this beautiful community too," Brojek said.

"Thank you guys for voicing your concerns as well, too, because obviously that helps us as a business be able to clean up things on our end of it very quicky so we can ensure we stay out of your guys' hair and keep building and being able to support you internally within the city, the township as well as the businesses and surrounding people that are within this beautiful community too," Brojek said.

New Buffalo Township Supervisor Michelle Heit said that the township had spent a year discussing dispensaries in the township and had three public hearings.

She said that the township is also not pleased with the "human signs" and "we are cracking down on that."

Those who have issues can also call the nonemergency number.

Heit said the high school is working with the health department to work on educating students.

On May 6, the Planning Commission made some recommendations with regards to changes to the marijuana ordinance; however, as of May 19, they hadn't received any updates from the township's attorney, who's reviewing the changes, and that there'll likely be a special meeting to address them.

Heit said that the township board sets its meeting time at the December meeting and could consider possibly changing it.

Board members adopted Earth Day resolutions, which recognized Flourish Books and Plants, Pharmhouse, Pure Cannabis, SWCA Environmental, Harbor Country Rolloff and Chase Churchill for their cleanup efforts on Earth Day.

Heit said that it was Churchill who discussed seeing trash on Wilson Road, which prompted the township to invite businesses to participate in an Earth Day cleanup as a challenge to see who picked up the most trash.

She said that Pharmhouse and SWCA won the challenge.

Board members approved a payment of $13,000 to the City of New Buffalo for 2025 Fourth of July fireworks.

Heit said that the fireworks will be more expensive this year, and the township is offering help.

Board members adopted a resolution which states the township will follow guidelines set forth by the West Michigan Trails and Bike Ways Implementation Guide for Wayfinding Signage for implementing signage along the linear trail, which will be called the Red Arrow Trail.

An invoice from the Bill Deputy Foundation in the amount of $85,000 for Pleasure Isle Marina, which is the fifth of the six payments, was approved.

The first pay estimate of $97,379 and the second change order to B & Z for the water service project was approved.

The sixth pay estimate of $301,806 to PayJay Inc, for the U.S. 12 water and sewer project was approved, with Heit saying it should be ending at the end of June.

A resolution that states township's nonmotorized land infrastructure current and future will be considered parks and recreation and incorporated into the township parks system for future maintenance and maintenance funding was adopted.

A proposal from Wightman for $21,100 for design work and construction oversight for a water fill station at 17655 Clay Street was approved.

An invoice from Rosenbauer Minnesota LLC for $572,805 for payment of the chassis for the new fire department fire apparatus was approved.

A resolution adopting an ordinance amending Chapter 126 of the township code regulating burning to update the procedure to obtain burn permits was approved, with Heit saying it will now state that you must apply online to obtain a permit.

The transfer of a marijuana retail establishment license at 19689 U.S. 12 from Native Leaf LLC to Mojo Retail LLC was approved.

An outdoor assembly permit for PUFF Cannabis form 9 a.m. to 9 p.m. June 20-21 was approved.

SPORTS

Raiders nearly pull off comeback in girls' softball

BY STAN MADDUX

The Red Arrow Raiders came back in the final inning but fell just short in the first game of a home tournament over the weekend.

The Raiders lost to Cassopolis 6-5 at River Valley High School Saturday, May 17, but then defeated Bangor 14-4 in the consolation game of the four team tournament.

Head Coach Erick Rochefort credited pitcher Greta Vollman for keeping the team in the game against Cassopolis until the bats of her teammates finally warmed up in the seventh and final inning.

"The girls never gave up like they have done the whole season," he said.

The Raiders trailed 4-0 until scoring a run in the top of the sixth inning when Johnna Rochefort after hitting a single was driven home by Emerson Collins.

Collins was thrown out, though, trying to stretch her single into a double.

Brianna Taylor led off the final inning by reaching base on a dropped third strike.

A strike out and fly out to center field came next but Rylee Rudolph drove in Taylor with a triple rolling to the right field fence.

Rudolph scored on a single to right field from Rochefort then Addie Lynch legged out an infield single.

The Raiders narrowed the lead to one when Rochefort and Lynch scored on another single to right field this time from Collins, who wound up stranded on the base paths on a strike out by the next batter.

Rochefort went 4 for 4 at the plate while Vollman went the distance on the mound recording five strikeouts along with five walks.

"Vollman did an amazing job keeping the game within striking distance," Rochefort said.

In the second game, Emma Seifert helped lead the way with a hit in each of her four at bats and driving in two runs while three runs were driven home on a double by Collins.

Rudolph also drove in two runs on two hits.

Lynch went 2 for 2 with two runs batted in.

The Raiders on Monday split a doubleheader at Michigan Lutheran winning 7-3 and losing 12-1.

The team of mostly freshmen and sophomore is 16-11 on the season.

From the Bleachers

COLUMN BY KURT MARGGRAF IN CHICAGO

This week we found out that Caleb Williams father wanted his son to play for the Vikings, not the Bears, and in baseball, the Crosstown Classic took place, with the Cubs sweeping the White Sox.

Before we discuss those things, I'd like to weigh in on another thing that happened in Chicago this week.

When I was a kid my favorite music was from Motown and because I was a city boy I almost was required to hate country music. Over the years, my taste has changed and so has the music and by now, I like Willie Nelson much more than I like Kanye West. I still love a lot of R&B and still dislike a lot of country, but the gap has narrowed. I guess it shouldn't have surprised me when Beyoncé decided to do a country album… but it did.

She's on tour now and was in Chicago playing three sold out Cowboy Carter concerts at Soldier Field. Her fans were adorned in cowboy hats and boots and my friends told me the show is great. Beyoncé doing three sold out shows at Soldier Field singing country music? I guess the world is changing.

Back to sports, the fact that Williams father didn't want his son to play for the Bears is a non-story to me. The quote that said "Chicago is the place where quarterbacks go to die" is hard to argue with. But, because of Williams and new head coach Ben Johnson, the table has been set to change that perception.

Last year, the Bears had a horrible offensive line and a coach with little imagination. We are certain that the Bears improved their offensive line immensely with two trades, a free agent, and a draft choice.

Three or four of the five offensive line starters have been replaced, but the biggest change we are certain of is Johnson and his imagination leading the Bears offense. Johnson has an incredible football mind that has been proven over the last few years with the Detroit Lions. Do not worry Bears fans, Williams is and will be a proud Bear.

The Crosstown Classic has been a big thing for Chicago's baseball teams and their fans since it began in the 1970's. The Sox and Cubs have faced each other 149 times since inter league play began, and the Cubs took the lead in the series Sunday, 75-74.

Right now, the Cubs are in first place and the Sox are in last, but both teams have their ups and downs. The victory Sunday was the Cubs eighth in a row over the Sox.

Peter Crow Armstrong, the Cubs center fielder and rising superstar, was a thorn in the Sox side for the entire series. The Sox have a budding star of their own in Miguel Vargas.

Stephen Colbert said "Every time I'm in Chicago I think, 'Why did I ever leave?' This is the greatest city in the world."

Be kind. Talk to you next week. Peace, love, and happiness.

I like being in exciting fights.
— Paddy Pimblett

Bison lose doubleheader to Bucks at home

BY STAN MADDUX

Under chilly and damp conditions, the New Buffalo High School boys' baseball team was swept in a doubleheader at home Wednesday by Buchanan.

The Bucks defeated the Bison 12-1 and 6-2.

After the Bucks scored one run in the first inning, the Bison had a chance to even the score after senior Ethan Lijewski reached base on a fielding error.

He stole a base and was standing on third base when senior Nick Wolfe popped up to the second baseman to end the inning.

Buchanan started the next inning by loading the bases on a fielding error and two walks from starting pitcher senior Vaughn Nikkel, who struck out the next hitter.

The flood gates for Buchanan began to open, though, when two runners scored on a wild pitch and passed ball.

Two singles, another wild pitch and a bases clearing double to the right center field fence came next.

Right fielder Lucas Thun threw the ball to second baseman Axel Rodriguez, who on a nice tag by Wolfe nailed the runner trying to stretch the double into a triple for the second out of the inning.

The inning didn't end until the Bucks scored another run on a wild pitch that followed two more walks and a single.

Freshman Colton Lijewski pitching in relief gave up a double to start the third inning and threw a wild pitch before striking out the next hitter.

Lijewski hit the next batter then gave up a single that drove in two runs.

He got out of the inning when the next batter hit a line drive to Rodriquez, who after the catch recorded the third out by tagging second base before the runner breaking toward third base could get safely back.

Lijewski gave up two more runs in the fourth inning but shut out the Bucks in what turned out to be the 5th inning under the Michigan High School Athletic Association's 10 run rule.

The only run for the Bison came in the fourth inning when Wolfe reached base on a fielding error then scored from third base on a sacrifice fly to center field by Jeff Tertel.

The only hit in the game for the Bison came on a single up the middle in the 5th inning by Trevor James.

Colton Lijewski gave up five runs in the second game while Wolfe pitching in relief gave up one run.

Drew Bowen and Lucas Forker had the only two hits for the Bison with Forker driving in one of the runs.

The Bison also lost a doubleheader on Saturday, May 17 at Brandywine 9-4 and 17-7.

Students, staff 'Ignite a Cure' for cancer at 5K

BY FRANCESCA SAGALA

It was May 2016 when New Buffalo Area Schools held its first schoolwide 5K to raise money for third grade teacher Maria Churchill, who had just completed surgery after a cancer diagnosis.

Weak from having undergone surgery as well as chemotherapy, Churchill showed up in a wheelchair that was pushed by her sister and brother.

"I could walk but not really," she said.

On the slightly chilly afternoon of Monday, May 19, Churchill walked with other teachers, staff members and students during the school district's ninth 5K, which had the "Ignite a Cure and Extinguish Cancer" theme, at the multiplex field.

Now retired, she's teaching fitness classes and working as a personal trainer, visiting her daughter frequently in California and celebrating 10 years of being cancer-free.

She continues to visit Mayo Clinic, which is a "place of resilience and hope in my journey," for routine checkups.

"They invited me to come and wanted me to give an update on how I'm feeling – I'm still a part of the wonderful New Buffalo school family," Churchill said, adding that she still occasionally substitutes.

Hosted by the middle and high school SADD (Students Against Destructive Decisions) and elementary and high school student senates, this year's event raised funds for Berrien County Cancer Service, Inc. Money raised from the sale of T-shirts, which were designed by Karen Muckey-Martinez and the elementary senate and printed by Danika Piotrowski, that day's concession, the dunk tank, middle/high school snack sales during advisory and advisory Coin War contributions also benefited the cause.

As was tradition, students and staff also honored this year's retirees: Jeanne Przystup, who's been at the school district for 24 years, and Robert Hughes, who's been there for 25 years.

Having been in Title with Przystup since he was in kindergarten, student Boomer Stapleton said that he feels more "confident and I'm a much better reader now."

What he'll most remember about her is her "awesome collection of Disney figurines," being "really kind and patient" and greeting him and other students every morning at the front doors with a "big smile."

"And we will miss her laugh – it fills the hallways with joy. If you know Ms. Jeanne, you know her laugh."

Senior Ekolu Brown said that, as building and trades instructor for the past 25 years, Hughes has built 25 houses, three storage sheds and five handicap ramps.

He has also done "many great things" for the district and community.

On May 1, Hughes attended his last CTE awards ceremony and handed his last award to Brown.

After spending a trimester with him, Brown said it was Hughes who convinced him to shift his career idea from being an officer or businessman toward a construction business.

"He has been a very great teacher and member of the New Buffalo community and will always have a special place in the hearts of us all," Brown said.

Maria Churchill (third right) walks on the track

Students and staff race to extinguish cancer in the multiplex

Students make large bubbles and do other activities on the multiplex

Samantha Newton, Maegan Fatter and Xochitl Hernandez enjoy ice cream

Students tossing a volleyball on the multiplex

Robert Hughes and Jeanne Przystup are recognized for the years at New Buffalo

Staff and students race on the multiplex to extinguish cancer

New Buffalo spared from major storm damage

BY STAN MADDUX

Storm damage in the area last week included the roof of business completely ripped away and a tree crushing a mobile home, but New Buffalo was mostly spared by the extreme weather.

City Manager Darwin Watson said a fallen tree wound up in some power lines in a remote area of the city.

There were also some fallen limbs but he's not aware of any major property damage.

"For the most part, we dodged it," he said.

Outside the city limits, though, it was a different story with multiple trees down along parts of Red Arrow Highway in areas like Chikaming Township and Sawyer.

The Michigan City area with more than 4,000 customers without power may have been hit hardest by the brief May 15 storm producing little rain but packing winds estimated at 60 miles per hour.

Amish Structures at 8555 W. U.S. 20 in Trail Creek was forced out of business until owner Donnie Pawlik rebuilds his main two-story showroom and workshop.

Pawlik said he's already been in touch with contractors about rebuilding the upper level of the building he used for storage,

"It's looking like, hopefully, in two to three weeks I should be back up and running," he said.

Much of the roof and side walls were carried across the four-lane highway and landed harmlessly on undeveloped ground roughly 400 feet away.

Pawlik said seven display model wooden sheds with some destroyed from being knocked over or blown around over by strong winds were among his other losses that included "dozens of pieces of outdoor furniture."

Some of his debris also wound up tangled in power lines.

Pawlik is also a provider of gazebos, horse shelters, tiny log cabins along with pole barns and other metal structures.

All of his products are made by the Amish in northern Indiana, Ohio and Pennsylvania.

"They build and I sell it," he said.

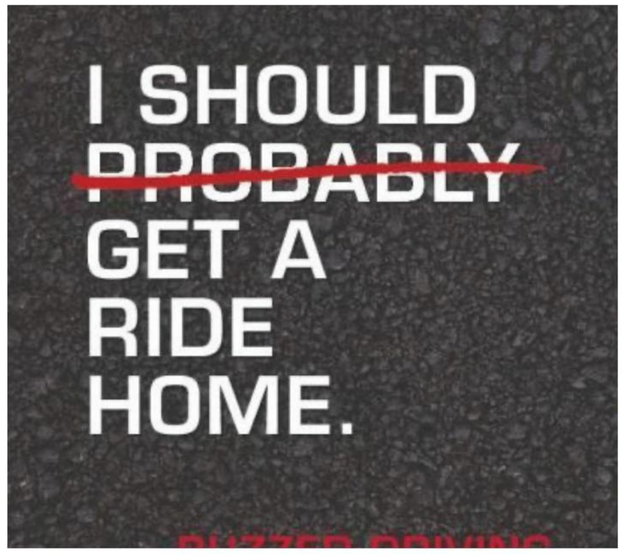
Two families in Michigan City at Green Acres Manufactured Home Community and one family at nearby Dunewood Village Mobile Home Community along Indiana 212 were driven out of their residences by fallen trees and branches.

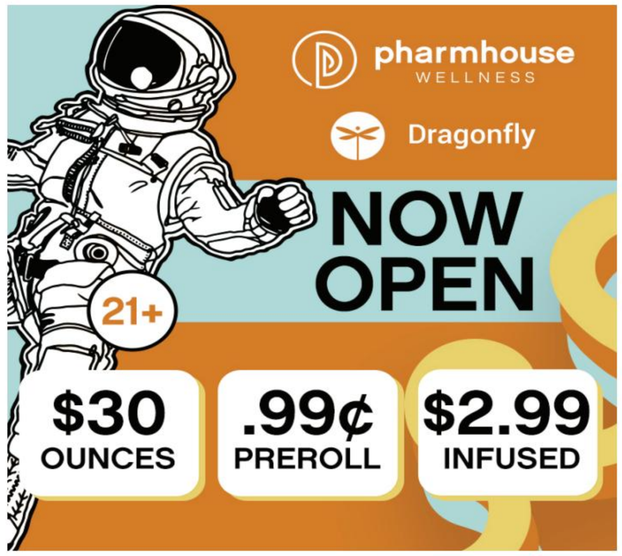
"They had to find somewhere else to stay for the night," said Michigan City Fire Department public information officer Tia Free.

Free said nobody in the damaged homes was injured.

According to NIPSCO, there were over 4,000 customers in its Michigan City service territory and close to 1,400 customers in the La Porte area still without power the following day.

There were many other trees down in Michigan City in areas that included Michigan Boulevard just south of U.S. 12.





Jeremy Winer, Nicollette Wands and Holly Shulman interact during Sake Moon

Playwrights Mary Rose Roberts, Mary Wright, Holly Shulman, Gregg Fraley and Loretta Richey Friend take the stage

Franklin Roosevelt (Gregg Fraley) and Amelia Earhart (Ariel Dooley) have some words during Give My Best to the Girl

Local playwrights featured in 'Mini Play Festival'

BY FRANCESCA SAGALA

Five local playwrights saw their work debut onstage during "Under Ten: The Mini Play Festival," at Elsie Earl Studios in New Buffalo Friday, May 16.

Loretta Richey Friend, owner of Elsie Earl, said that the five, 10-minute plays were written by local amateur writers, with volunteer writers, directors and actors.

"These are works in progress - so they're not 100 percent perfect," she said.

The following plays were performed: "More Than Friends," which was written by Mary Wright and featured actors Tabitha Porter and Aidan Andrade; "Last Party With Peavey," written by Gregg Fraley and included performances by Holly Shulman, Fraley, and included performances by Fraley, Ted Kerhoulas; "Give My Best to the Girl," written and directed by Richey Friend, edited and assisted directed by Ariel Dooley and feature actors Dooley, Fraley, Shulman, Johanna Drew, Kerhoulas, Gerry Fabbri and David Stroud; "Sake Moon," which was written and directed by Shulman and featured actors Jeremy Winer, Nicollette Wads and Shulman and "Four Questions," written by Mary Rose Roberts and featured actors Judy Gadiel, Dooley, Fraley and Lauralee Sikorski.

Richey Friend said that pretty much all the playwrights had directed their own plays.

"There're a few of us who had never written before, so this was our first play, and we got to produce it and everything," she said.

Richey Friend said that she'd recruited her actors from the two nights of improv classes, Third Coast Improvinators: The Harbor Country Improv Workshop, at Elsie Earl. The drop-in for seasoned players is from 7-9 p.m. Wednesdays (invitation only) and for beginners 7-9 p.m. Thursdays.

Fraley, who performed in three plays and wrote one, is the founder and facilitator of Third Coast Improvinators.

Beginning June 6, Richey Friend said that Elsie Earl will host a piano lounge, which will include a pianist and flutist as well as some singing along and any singers who want to perform or do a duet.

An art space with a gallery, 3D painting and performances (improv, music and theater), Elsie Earl Studios is located at 427 S. Whittaker Street in New Buffalo.

Gregg Fraley takes the stage during Last Party with Peavey

Judy Gadiel, Gregg Fraley and Ariel Dooley take the stage during Four Questions

Tabitha Porter and Aidan Andrade evaluate their relationship during More Than Friends

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Driver charged in bus crash wants bond lowered

BY STAN MADDUX

A Chicago area man accused of critically injuring a New Prairie High School student in a school bus collision on May 8 is seeking a reduction in his bond.

The request by Shawn Akison was made Friday, May 16, during his video arraignment in La Porte Circuit Court on Level 5 felony criminal recklessness.

Akison, 41, of Romeoville, Illinois, wants permission to meet the terms of his $15,000 bond by posting 10 percent of the amount in cash so he can be released from the La Porte County Jail to await the outcome of the case.

Judge Julianne Havens ordered a background check for her to review and scheduled a hearing for May 30 to decide whether to grant his request.

The court also gave him additional time to decide whether he can afford to hire private legal counsel instead of accepting a court appointed public defender.

"It just depends on my financial situation," he said.

Akison was scheduled for trial beginning Oct. 14 if the case is not resolved through a plea agreement.

He has also been charged in St. Joseph County with Level 6 felony resisting law enforcement for allegedly fleeing from a police officer pursuing him for driving a box truck recklessly.

The pursuit was terminated minutes prior to the collision.

Daisy King, who lives in northern La Porte County, was in the courtroom with her son, Lucas Halderman, 15, who was one of the students involved in the crash.

Halderman was on the same bus as Lucas Bradshaw, 16, who was still reported in critical but stable condition in the intensive care unit at Memorial Hospital in South Bend with a head injury.

King, who was the only parent at the hearing, said her son suffered only minor bruises and scrapes but she attended the hearing out of curiosity and for peace of mind.

King said it's still been a "super emotional" time for her since the accident, knowing how things could have been much different for her son and because of the more serious injuries suffered by others traveling to the game.

Immediately after the crash, King said she went to the scene and saw the wreckage.

"It was hard to sleep at night. It shook me," she said.

There were seven members of the junior varsity baseball team and two coaches on two minis buses traveling to a game in Hobart injured in the crash on U.S. 20 at Fail Road north of La Porte.

Except for Bradshaw, everyone taken to hospitals has since been released, including volunteer coach and school board member Rich Shail, who returned home Wednesday evening.

His wife, Nancy, said he is wearing a back brace to stabilize a broken vertebrae so, hopefully, it can heal without having surgery.

She said her husband, who also suffered broken ribs along with lacerations and bruises, is also using a walker.

"We're hopeful he will start to gain strength back day by day," she said.

La Porte County Police have not released exactly how the crash unfolded, or the results of a blood test given to Akison, saying the case remains under investigation.

Mrs. Shail, though, said her husband was on the same bus as Bradshaw that was stopped at a red light on U.S. 20 when struck in the rear by the box truck and pushed forward into the lead bus.

According to court records, Akison has a still undecided Level 6 felony drug possession charge filed in January in Lake County, Ind.

He also reportedly has a long history of extreme speed limit violations and other charges like driving with a suspended license in Will County, Illinois where he resides.

King, if given a chance to say anything to Akison said it would be "why. What was the purpose."

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Another prison drone smuggling thwarted

BY STAN MADDUX

Two men linked to another prison drug smuggling attempt with a drone in La Porte County are out on bond.

The most recent case involves the Indiana State Prison in Michigan City.

Daron Mitchell, 29, of East Chicago and Juwan Mitchell, 25, of Chicago are charged with dealing in a schedule III controlled substance and trafficking with an inmate, both Level 5 felonies; Level 6 felony dealing in marijuana along with misdemeanor counts of resisting law enforcement and possession of marijuana.

According to court documents, Michigan City Police responded to the prison at 2 a.m. on May 14 on a report of a drone flying in the area.

Upon arrival, police said a prison employee tracking the flight pattern of the drone learned it had taken off from a nearby wooded area.

Officers from both agencies entered the woods and soon discovered the flying object had just landed close to the area being searched.

The sounds of walking through brush were also heard just before two men dressed in all black clothing were spotted emerging from the woods and running across some nearby railroad tracks, police said.

The men ignoring commands to stop then jumped a fence in the 200 block of Columbia St. and were taken into custody a short time later.

Police said a backpack one of the suspects had on was found on the ground near the fence they jumped.

Two bulky packages containing just over 225 grams of marijuana and over 200 packages of buprenorphine and naloxone film weighing 1.6 grams were inside the backpack, according to court documents.

Buprenorphine and naloxone are prescription drugs commonly used to ease withdrawal symptoms related to opioid addiction.

Also recovered from the backpack were items of contraband like a cell phone, a plastic bag containing cigars and cigarettes, lighter and a vape, authorities said.

Police said a remote control for a drone, two drone batteries, other drone equipment and a power cord were also seized from the backpack.

Juwan Mitchell posted $15,000 cash bond the following day, according to jail records.

Court records show Daron Mitchell posted $1,500 bail after his request for a reduction in his $15,000 cash bond was granted by the court during his initial hearing on May 16.

As a condition of the bond reduction, he must wear a GPS monitor for authorities to track his whereabouts.

The previous arrests for attempted smuggling with drones were at Westville Correctional Facility in March and April.

In one of the cases, large amounts of methamphetamine, fentanyl and marijuana were seized from a flying drone picked up by the prison's drone detection system.

LOCAL INTELLIGENCE
New Buffalo Times
— SINCE 1942 —

A Writer's Life...

DURING THE GOLDEN AGE OF TELEVISION ANIMATION

BY JACK OLESKER

Meet my little friend...

I didn't get shook when, at 17, I stupidly acquired a .38 revolver and someone with mental health issues reached into my car while I was parked at an A&W drive-in, grabbed the gun, pointed it at my temple and cocked its hammer. I didn't get shook when I was lowered out of helicopters as a USAF Aerospace Medic, trained to rescue downed pilots and crewmembers, and I didn't get shook when I gave up a cushy job in parent's clothing business and drove from Chicago to L.A. without knowing a single soul, intent on making a living as a writer.

I'd learned that if one stayed calm and kept one's wits about them, things turn out better than if one 'gets shook'. So I talked the disturbed individual with a gun at my temple off the mental ledge he was on. (I turned the gun in to our local cops that afternoon.). I chose to admire the view from the helicopters' hoists rather than being afraid of them. And as for coming to L.A. without a plan, I found taking action beats sitting around waiting for something to happen.

So now that I'd taken the leap and bought my first computer, I wasn't about to "get shook" about it. But I was saddened by it. The last buggy whip manufacturer manufactured the best buggy whip ever made. The IBM Selectric II was surely the best typewriter ever made. But something told me computers were going to change everything. Something told me I was fortunate to be at this particular place, at this particular time. Something told me to figure out how to use my mysterious 'little friend' to write Care Bears story springboards.

So I did...and as I did I felt a new table was being set. And yeah, I knew I was having mood swings, one day thinking I was incredibly valuable to Jean and Andy, the next thinking I was just a small cog. But mood swings were and are a part of this writer's life. I just dealt with them, enjoyed the ups, not getting too rattled by the downs and pushed on...always pushed on.

Monday morning Lori called me into her office to tell me Jean was happy I bought a computer. She said she'shappy, too; that it would make a big difference for me. There was something about Lori — a genuineness that told me she meant it when she said she's happy for me.

When she asked how I'm doing with my Kaypro, I confessed there was a learning curve. She nodded and assured me I'll get the hang of it. In a faux-offhand manner, she casually added, "Writing your Care Bears springboards will give you good practice." Lori waited for my reaction. I reminded myself she knows everything going on at the studio. Just as faux-offhandedly, I said, "I'm sure it will..."

She broke into a smile, making a mental note, I'm sure, that I'm quick on my feet and can handle scenarios that occasionally present surprises. That fact would come into play in later days when she gained enough confidence to take me to important meetings.

For now she said, "Jean wants you to work on the springboards from home for a couple of days." I resisted the temptation to ask what Sandy will think about that.

I told Lori I'd see her in a couple of days and headedout, not mentioning I'd already pounded out six Care Bears story springboards using 'my little friend.'

Jack Olesker's career in the entertainment industry spans over four decades. He has served as a story editor in L.A. as well as president of a motion picture and television company in Chennai, India. His writing ranges from Mighty Morphin Power Rangers, Care Bears and Hello Kitty's Furry Tale Theater to documentaries and horror novels and murder mysteries for adults.

HOROSCOPE

MAY 22-28, 2025

AS INTERPRETED BY SANDY "STAR" BENDT

ARIES MARCH 21—APRIL 19

You have an innate ability to turn a challenge into a useful commodity and some of your greatest achievements this week will be born from your frustrations. You will see clearly now what is wrong and you will come to the right conclusions. A turbulent time is coming to a successful end.

TAURUS APRIL 20—MAY 20

Even though you may feel uncertain now as to which way to handle career and money situations you will be successful in navigating the straits in business matters or financial negotiations and/or you will suddenly come into love or money through the affections of a generous admirer.

GEMINI MAY 21—JUNE 21

The focus is on controversial matters this week. There will be many unforeseen developments that will change your plans for the better. This is actually the beginning of a new order and if the unexpected didn't happen you would miss the turn of fortune fate has in store for you.

CANCER JUNE 22—JULY 22

You will be surprised by your unexpected progress, good fortune or "arrival" in business or financial matters. Also, you will surprise yourself by making a major "yes" decision you have been putting off. Accept that which is coming your way and don't delay! Strong masculine energy is here.

LEO JULY 23—AUGUST 22

Your first response is to quit or run away or evade the issue but the best response is to deal with it. It is only through participation in all life (the good, the bad, and incomprehensible) that we find the answers which enable us to correct ourselves or better understand the workings of the Universe.

VIRGO AUGUST 23—SEPTEMBER 22

A situation will arrive that will lure, entice, or beckon you on a very tempting offer. Your wish for a union will soon be fulfilled. It is important that you think the situation out before you approach it. If you're sincere you will get any and all the support you need. If not, you will run into obstacles.

LIBRA SEPTEMBER 23—OCTOBER 22

You're in for a struggle and there will be more work or problems ahead than you are aware of now. Consider the source and avoid dwelling on the negative side of things. Don't allow an inconsistent attitude to get the upper hand. Use positive affirmations and count your "wins."

SCORPIO OCTOBER 23—NOVEMBER 21

Many social opportunities will come your way and someone will enter your life in whom you will be very interested (a professional type person) and you will more than likely meet this person close to your home, if not outside your front door. This person may train you, teach you, or guide you.

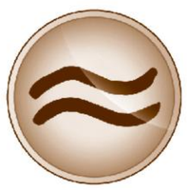
SAGITTARIUS NOVEMBER 22—DECEMBER 21

Though the worst is over in a romantic situation but anguish will continue because you won't be able to bury the past or start anew. You will vacillate between "Do I want it or don't I?" and the moment you try to pin anything down or make a firm decision and things will change. Wait things out.

CAPRICORN DECEMBER 22—JANUARY 19

You're going to have to go it alone for the time being, fighting your own battle your own way, and the past will provide nothing to lean on or sustain you. If you fall down, get back up, and dust yourself off. Refuse to be beaten by life and you won't be. Stay on purpose with your best intentions.

AQUARIUS JANUARY 20—FEBRUARY 18



You will feel that your partner's not holding up his or her end, participating enough, or willing to sustain the relationship by applying effort toward maintaining it. No matter what you have suffered in the past, you'll be on purpose and your hope and determination will renew the relationship.

PISCES FEBRUARY 19—MARCH 20

There will be no union or total commitment with the one you love or want to be with until you resolve an inner dispute first (like getting clear on what it is that you want or need). Communicate your needs, then let go and see what happens. Continual pushing and forcing will not work with this person.

This ending comes as grace to free you from all that you have known, for what you have known is now too small for your soul. — *Rumi*

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Sudoku

Fill in the grid so that every row, column and 3x3 box contains the numbers 1 through 9.

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7		8			5			
			1		7			
3		5	2				4	
		7	6					1
	1					2		7
2							5	
4	8			1	3			
			7	4		3		

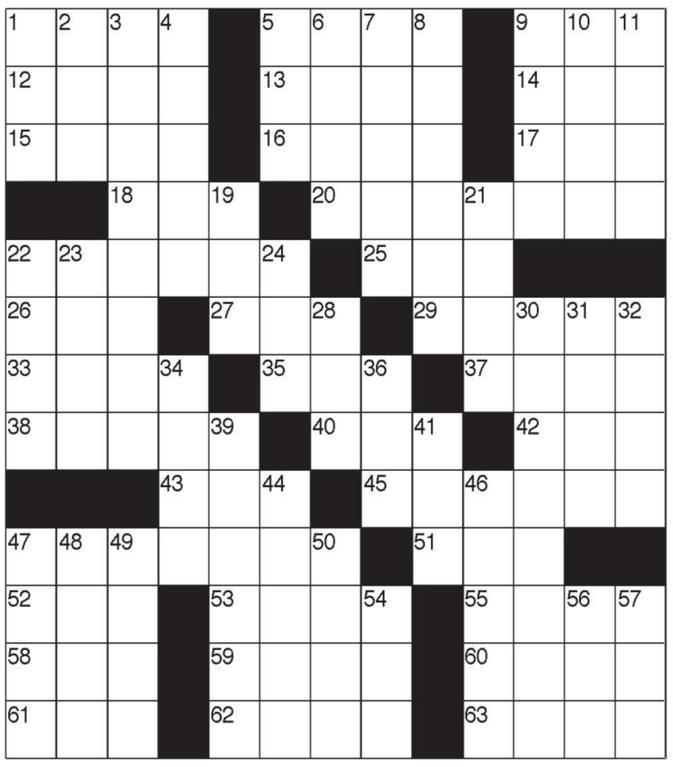
CROSSWORD PUZZLE

ACROSS

1 Examine
5 Soap-frame bar
9 Turf
12 Hatred (Ital.)
13 Egypt. cross
14 Guido's note (2 words)
15 Knee (Lat.)
16 Growl
17 Block
18 Size of coal
20 Pompano
22 Wealth
25 Drunk driving (abbr.)
26 Pointed (pref.)
27 Drop
29 Canadian island
33 Pasteboard
35 Public vehicle
37 Voucher
38 Buddhist Mongol
40 Luzon people
42 Haitian voodoo deity
43 Son of Ra
45 Overcoat
47 Calm
51 N.Z. woody vine
52 Atlantic (abbr.)
53 Buddhist monk
55 Opera heroine
58 Female ruff
59 Norse mythical hero
60 Trolley
61 Period
62 Rigid hair
63 Equal Employment Opportunity Commission (abbr.)

DOWN

1 Clothe
2 Gelderland city
3 Easy job
4 Hard
5 Wilt
6 Sicilian resort
7 Norse poet
8 Cagey
9 Fat (pref.)
10 Viking
11 Defy
19 General equivalency diploma (abbr.)
21 City on the Danube
22 Sprint
23 Adjective-forming (suf.)
24 Pouch
28 Sheep's cry
30 Arouet
31 Sioux tribe
32 Close
34 It. actress
36 Heat unit
39 Gr. author
41 Axilla
44 Way
46 Ray
47 Berne's river
48 Wing (pref.)
49 Excuse
50 Discharge
54 Alabama (abbr.)
56 Burmese knife
57 Television channel



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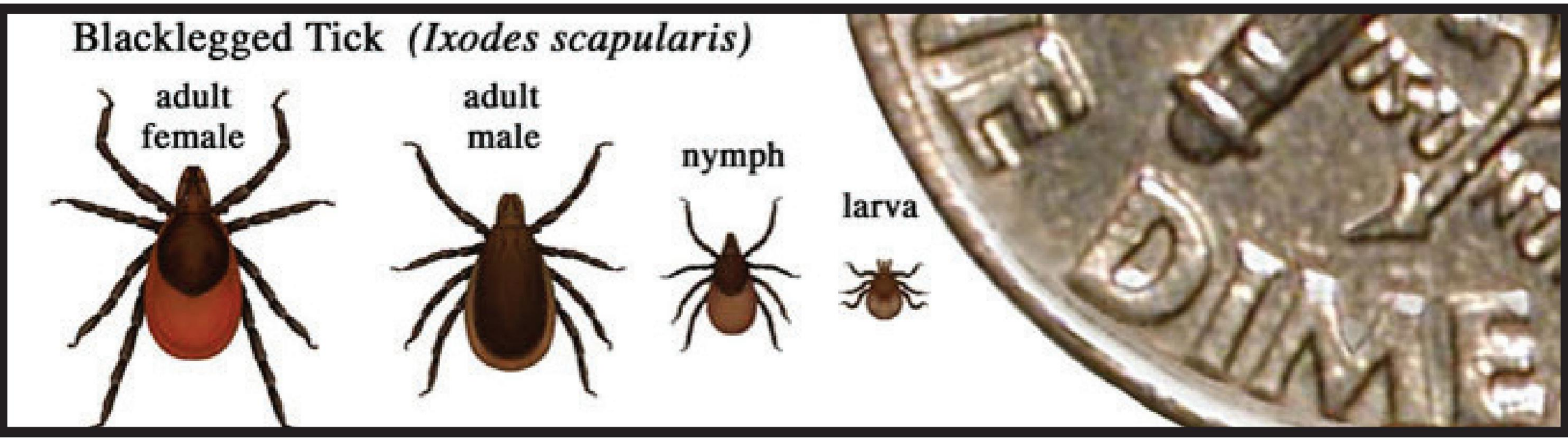

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PUBLIC NOTICES

New Buffalo Area Schools is accepting applications for enrollment for those students who do not reside within the New Buffalo Area Schools boundaries, pursuant to Section 105 of the State Aid Act, subject to available space.

Parent/Legal guardians may identify building preferences; however, assignment will be based on available space.

If more students apply for enrollment than there are available slots, preference will first be given to siblings of students currently enrolled in the program based on random draw and then other applicants randomly selected.

SCHOOLS OF CHOICE ENROLLMENT OPENINGS
FOR 2025-2026
Kindergarten, 1st Grade, 4th Grade, 5th Grade
6th Grade, 7th Grade, 8th Grade, 9th Grade
10th Grade, 11th Grade

Application Deadline: June 16, 2025
Directions:
Parent/Legal guardian needs to complete online application at www.app.informedk12.com/link_campaigns/application-for-schools-of-choice-or-tution-students?token=42jTS9RSVHx2gLLrvxkmVABT

The completed application MUST be received by the Superintendent's office no later than Monday, June 16, 2025.

You will be notified of acceptance in a timely manner, no later than June 30, 2025.

Questions regarding the Schools of Choice Program should be directed to the Superintendent's office at 269-469-6010 or dwysocki@nbas.org

A Day in the Life

CHANGING VALUES...

BY LAWRENCE VON EBELER

Moral decisions face the public on several issues starting with restoring Pete Rose to the Baseball Hall of Fame in Cooperstown. It would seem that the sentiment is for this enormously popular baseball legend who was rejected for the museum because he was caught gambling on his own team. It is clear that he will be restored to rest in the museum with the other sacred players in the museum collection of baseball legends. I have some interest in his deserved placement as I completed the final re-design of the museum retail a few years ago. Pete wasn't with us then. My graphic designer and I finished late that night and drove through the snow and ice storm back to New York City. The ice was so thick that we had to chip it off the windshield with a shovel. But, this gal was not to lose the opportunity I had promised her, we had dinner at the famous "Elaine's" after a Hellish trip where we were paid special attention by Elaine.

Keeping on point of the sentimental theme I would add the new "Air Force One" as being gifted to President Trump, a most impressive new/used "Air Force One" dubbed the "Flying Palace". The $400 million dollar aircraft was a personal gift to Trump. It's a problem on several points: First of all it would have to remain grounded until the foreign electronics could be checked out and all installed with all new America's systems, which they estimate would take as long as two years and reassembled for the entire airplane to be acceptable and at a cost of a billion just to pass security! It remains a challenge yet to be approved.

What is unclear about Russia's invasion of Ukraine? Allegedly, we are now soon to see a halting of the conflict by giving Putin the land and minerals just for signing off on the war he started. Don't hold your breath.

These issues bring to the forefront our changing values of what is acceptable. It doesn't stop there. The trickle down effect is startling, if not shocking if you think about it. The problem is we don't think about it! We just plod along with the crowd that undermines our most important of American standards; Honesty, integrity, and values. Too often it is now a matter that whatever makes money is acceptable if not preferable. Possibly the light will come on again soon because if it doesn't we lose our chance for salvation and fall into mediocrity and Hell.

How do we ward off this warped and ignorant mindset? Many choose lifestyles that ignore or cover up the inequities of the present day's changing standards just to get along. People are not fulfilling their responsibility of thinking before reacting, but instead are more to a blind lifestyle of consumerism and decadence. That is not to say we should live a lifestyle devoid of some fun with consumption and pleasure. I am far from being the perfect person and feel I am abandoning my own standards for writing this type of column. On the other hand, there comes a time when one owes a moment of candor and a few words to clarify what they stand for besides just fun, humor, and entertainment. I feel that time is now.

When I was a kid I belonged to a saddle club. We had a drill team practice for showing off our horsemanship and we would practice the drills on Sundays at the local county fairgrounds. On my way to practice one Sunday I was riding my horse. My lovely horse "Rick" was frightened by something on the side of the road and shyed into an oncoming car which hit us. Rickdidn't make it, Awful. I flew over the top of the car on impact and landed on my face and knees rendering me with broken knee caps and no front teeth. I spent the summer mending and getting new teeth. The nice people who had hit us on that fateful day came to us later and gave me $500.00 for the loss of my horse. They were not speeding and had no way of avoiding us. It was their way of trying to make amends for the unfortunate accident. $500.00 was a lot of money back then. There was no threat from us for a lawsuit as might be the case today. They just wanted to do that for me to get a new horse, which I did, I got a great Arabian gelding with which I won many prizes and I became the president of the drill team and led many parades for several years on my fabulous horse. I still miss that horse. He had a Lippizaner gate and without prompting he would go into that marvelous gate for parades!

It was a different time, a better time when people upheld higher standards, 75 years ago. I wish we could return to those values today. One can only pray for that by voting and picking yourself up, knocking on doors, and joining the myriad of peaceful demonstrations all over the country, and praying.

Large animal registration deadline fast approaching

The deadline for large animals to be exhibited at the 2025 Berrien County Youth Fair is June 1.

Animals needing to be registered by June 1 include dairy, sheep, goats, swine, llamas/alpacas, equine and beef breeding. Registration is open to any Berrien County resident ages 5 to 20 years of age. The exhibitor age is as of Jan. 1, 2025. Online registration is available for all departments, except equine. Equine must complete an equine entry form and return it to the BCYF office by June 1.

Online registration is now open. Once registered (each year you will create a username and password – it can be the same as last year's), exhibitors can return to the program and add more entries up until each entry deadline. Families can register under one e-mail and password. The exhibitor's printed email confirmation will serve as the traditional yellow copy of the entry form and is required on entry day, just as the yellow copy of the traditional entry form is. The link for online entries can be found at www.bcyf.org.

Entry forms may be brought to the fair office between the hours of 9 a.m. and 4 p.m. Monday through Friday prior to June 1 or postmarked before June 1. The fair office will be open special hours from 9 a.m. to noon Saturday, May 31, or registration forms can be placed in the drop box outside the fair office after office hours or until midnight on June 1.

The Fair Office will be closed for Memorial Day Monday, May 26, but will be back open during regular business hours from 9 a.m. to 4 p.m. starting Tuesday, May 27. Exhibitors are encouraged to get their registrations in early.

Animal identification rules from the United States Department of Agriculture (USDA) include:

DAIRY AND BEEF:

- Must have official MDARD identification tag – Tag Hotline 888-565-8626 or registered breed tattoo accompanied by breed registration papers Goats:
- Must have official USDA Scrapie identification tag – Tag Hotline 517-337-4705 or registered breed tattoo accompanied by breed registration papers sheep:
- Must have official USDA Scrapie tag – Tag Hotline 517-337-4705

SWINE:

- The swine market ear tags must either be a USDA 840 tag – Tags should be obtained by the breeder or by a few businesses. Call the Fair office with questions. 269-473-4251

All applicable USDA scrapie, RFID and 840 tag numbers must be on the entry form when it is turned into the Fair Office by the June 1 deadline, so youth need to order their tags as soon as possible. Exhibitors wishing to enter a registered goat must turn in a copy of goat registration papers with entry form.

In addition to the USDA required ear tag, individuals registering market animals (with the exception of swine) will also need BCYF market tags. Sheep and Goat tags will be dispersed on June 4 and 5 during the mandatory sheep and goat tagging event held at the BCYF. All goat and sheep BCYF ear tags must be in the animal's ear by June 5 or the entry will be disqualified. Swine tags must be in ears by July 12.

Other registration deadlines include:

- July 1: Small animals (rabbits, poultry, cats, dogs, pocket pets)
- August 1: Still exhibits (crafts, home economics, flowers, horticulture, variety classes).

As a reminder, there are limited numbers of exhibitor handbooks and entry forms

available at the Berrien County Youth Fair, all Berrien County Public libraries, Baroda City Mills in Baroda; Country Heritage Credit Union in Buchanan; Family Farm and Home in Benton Harbor; Tractor Supply Company, Rural King and Mark Farm Supply in Niles; Seifert's Farm Supply in Three Oaks and Tractor Supply Company in Stevensville.

No late registrations will be accepted. Questions can be addressed by contacting the Fair Office at 269-473-4251.

Dates for the 2025 Berrien County Youth Fair are Aug. 11-16, with the theme "Fiesta at the Fair". — STAFF REPORTS

PET OF THE WEEK

TERESA

Teresa will melt your heart instantly, and has a beautiful face. Her round little eyes and her pink nose will get you every time. Teresa is spayed, and her vaccinations are up-to-date. She loves treats, but is not very cat-friendly. Once she warms up to you, she probably will not leave your side. Teresa is very curious and nosey. She is about two years old, and just wants all your love, affection, and attention.

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New Buffalo Times
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Students receive scholarships from the New Buffalo Service League

Gift baskets filled with donated items await the students

Amy Hunt-Reimann, co-chair of the scholarship committee, welcomes students and parents

Service League presents scholarships to seniors

BY FRANCESCA SAGALA

This year, 30 well-deserving students out of the 46-member New Buffalo High School Class of 2025 applied for scholarships by the New Buffalo Service League.

"That's more than we ever had," said Amy Hunt-Reimann, co-chair of the league's scholarship committee.

Of those 30 students, nine were awarded scholarships at a special dinner that was attended by students and their parents at the New Buffalo Yacht Club Wednesday, May 7.

Hunt-Reimann said that members of the league's scholarship committee deliberate all day over the applicants, who are anonymous. Committee members are usually looking for a "well-rounded" applicant, with factors ranging from need to academics.

Thanks to the league's fundraising efforts and a couple of anonymous donations, this year, the league was able to give out two more scholarships than the previous year.

The following students were awarded scholarships: Receiving the Maryanne Frey scholarship was Ryker Donkersloot, who will be attending the University of Michigan; Irene Brinkman scholarship was awarded to Ava Totzke, who will be attending Michigan State University; Dan Donnelly Family scholarship went to Addison Lamport, who will be attending Denison University; Weiner Family scholarship went to Nicollette Durham, who will be attending Michigan State University; and five non named scholarships went to Eva Bauer, who will be attending University of Florida; Riley Tertel, who will be attending University of Michigan; Gladys McGinn, who will be attending Moody Bible Institute; Ella Vyskocil, who will be attending University of Michigan and Vaughn Nikkel, who will be attending Point Loma Nazarene University in California.

The following students were awarded scholarships: Receiving the Maryanne Frey scholarship was Ryker Donkersloot, who will be attending the University of Michigan; Irene Brinkman scholarship was awarded to Ava Totzke, who will be attending Michigan State University; Dan Donnelly Family scholarship went to Addison Lamport, who will be attending Denison University; Weiner Family scholarship went to Nicollette Durham, who will be attending Michigan State University; and five non named scholarships went to Eva Bauer, who will be attending University of Florida; Riley Tertel, who will be attending University of Michigan; Gladys McGinn, who will be attending Moody Bible Institute; Ella Vyskocil, who will be attending University of Michigan and Vaughn Nikkel, who will be attending Point Loma Nazarene University in California.

In addition to the scholarships, students also received baskets of items that were donated by Service League members and different businesses. Among the items were handmade ones made by league members, including stockings made by Kathy Mitchell; laundry bags with the students' chosen school colors by Joan Putzke; and scrapbooks by Liz Rettig.

The New Buffalo Service League began distributing scholarships after the passing of Maryanne Frey, a valedictorian at New Buffalo High School who was killed three weeks before graduation after an automobile accident in May 1962.

After extensive surgery and a prolonged recovery, the New Buffalo Junior Woman's Club, which is now the Service League, gave salutatorian Kathleen McCotter, who was also in the car, $100 to apply toward the cost of attending Western Michigan University. After deciding to continue to help deserving students by presenting annual scholarships for higher education, the league established the Frey scholarship.

Currently, scholarship funds are raised through the annual Arts and Crafts Show, which is held on the third Saturday in October in the New Buffalo Middle/High School gyms and celebrated its 40th year in 2022.

The show has increased the amount of the Maryanne Frey scholarship through the years, as well as has provided extra funds for additional ones.

Superintendent Adam Bowen thanked the league for giving back to the community.

This year will mark the 63rd year of awarding the Maryanne Frey scholarship.

"To sustain a scholarship for that long is quite incredible," he said.

New Buffalo High School Principal Tracy Ripley said that she enjoys the "partnership" between the school and the community.

"That's one of the goals that we have - to continue to make that grow," she said.

She said that most of the applicants came from this year's 18 Senior Scholars.

"This is the cream of the crop, these are the top students that stand before you," Ripley said.

Members of the New Buffalo Service League Scholarship Committee are co-chairs Amy Hunt-Reimann and Barbara Coffman; Kathey Mitchell; Kris Ransom; Mary Campbell; Debbie Schmidt; Sherri Kerhoulas; Marian Kelly; Joan Putzke; Lori Zeismer; Allegra Whiner and Hollis Oselka, with Nita Murray and Diane Smith being absent this year.

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